

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1 (Amended). An air compressor assembly, comprising:

an air tank for containing air at an elevated pressure, the air tank having an unpainted outer surface ~~during a manufacturing process~~;

a shroud enclosing the air tank; and

an air compressor for supplying air for storage in the air tank.

2 (Original). The air compressor assembly of claim 1, wherein the shroud encloses the air compressor.

3 (Withdrawn). The air compressor assembly of claim 1, wherein the air compressor assembly is of a "pancake" type.

4 (Withdrawn). The air compressor assembly of claim 1, wherein the air compressor assembly is of a "hot-dog" type.

5 (Withdrawn). The air compressor assembly of claim 1, wherein the air compressor assembly is of a vertical "hot-dog" type.

6 (Withdrawn). The air compressor assembly of in claim 1, wherein the air compressor assembly is of a "double hot-dog" type.

7 (Withdrawn). The air compressor assembly of claim 1, wherein the air compressor assembly is of a vertical stationary type.

8 (Original). The air compressor assembly of claim 1, wherein the air tank is made of metal.

9 (Original). The air compressor assembly of claim 7, wherein the air tank is made of steel.

10 (Withdrawn). The air compressor assembly of claim 1, wherein the air tank is made of plastic.

11 (Original). The air compressor assembly of claim 1, wherein the shroud is made of plastic.

12 (Withdrawn). The air compressor assembly of claim 1, wherein the shroud is made of metal.

13 (Amended). A portable air compressor assembly, comprising:

- an air tank for containing air at an elevated pressure, the air tank having a first air access port thereof and having an unpainted outer surface ~~during a manufacturing process~~;
- a shroud enclosing the air tank; and
- an air compressor for supplying air for storage in the air tank.

14 (Original). The portable air compressor assembly of claim 13, wherein through the first air access port air is supplied to and released from the air tank.

15 (Original). The portable air compressor assembly of claim 14, wherein the first air access port is located at a bottom wall of the air tank.

16 (Cancelled).

17 (Original). The portable air compressor assembly of claim 13, wherein the air tank has a second air access port.

18 (Original). The portable air compressor assembly of claim 17, wherein through the first air access port air is supplied to the air tank by the air compressor and through the second air access port air is released from the air tank.

19 (Original). The portable air compressor assembly of claim 18, wherein the first air access port is located at a top wall of the air tank and the second air access port is located at a bottom wall of the air tank.

20 (Original). The portable air compressor assembly of claim 13, wherein the shroud encloses the air compressor.

21 (Original). The portable air compressor assembly of claim 13, wherein the shroud is made of plastic.

22 (Withdrawn). The portable air compressor assembly of claim 13, wherein the shroud is made of metal.

23 (Original). The portable air compressor assembly of claim 13, wherein the air tank is made of metal.

24 (Withdrawn). The portable air compressor assembly of claim 13, wherein the air tank is made of plastic.

25 (Original). The portable air compressor assembly of claim 13, wherein the shroud includes a handle for allowing the portable air compressor assembly to be lifted and transported from place to place.

26 (Original). The portable air compressor assembly of claim 13, further comprises a control panel to allow operation of the portable air compressor assembly to be controlled.

27 (Withdrawn). A method for manufacturing an air compressor assembly, comprising:  
providing an air tank for containing air at an elevated pressure, the air tank  
having an unpainted outer surface;  
providing an air compressor for supplying air for storage in the air tank; and  
enclosing the air tank with a shroud.

28 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 27, further comprising enclosing the air compressor assembly in the shroud.

29 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 27, wherein the air compressor assembly is of a portable type.

30 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 29, wherein the shroud is made of plastic.

31 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 27, wherein the air compressor assembly is of a "pancake" type.

32 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 27, wherein the air compressor assembly is of a "hot-dog" type.

33 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 27, wherein the air compressor assembly is of a vertical "hot-dog" type.

34 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 27, wherein the air compressor assembly is of a "double hot-dog" type.

35 (Withdrawn). The method of claim 27, wherein the air compressor assembly is of a vertical stationary type.